

House Republican Conference Chair Mike Pence (R-IN)



Mike Pence was born in Columbus, Indiana, graduated from Hanover College in 1981, and earned his J.D. from Indiana University School of Law in 1986.

Congressman Pence was first elected to Congress in 2000 and was most recently elected to a fifth term in November of 2008. He also was elected unanimously by House Republicans to serve as House Republican Conference Chairman in November 2008. In his role as Conference Chairman, he helps develop and disseminate the message of the Republican Conference and promote its Members. Congressman Pence has emerged as a national spokesman for conservative principles.

Following graduation from law school, Congressman Pence ran for Congress in 1988 and 1990. In 1991, he was named president of a conservative state think tank based in Fort Wayne, Indiana, known as the Indiana Policy Review Foundation.

Congressman Pence began his career in radio broadcasting in 1992 and two years later, Network Indiana syndicated his show throughout the state of Indiana. "The Mike Pence Show" aired Monday through Friday on 18 stations. He also hosted a Sunday morning

political television show in Indianapolis from 1995-1999.

Congressman Pence describes himself as "a Christian, a conservative and a Republican, in that order." Congressman Pence and his wife Karen have three children and reside in Columbus, Indiana. The Pence family lives in Arlington, Virginia, while Congress is in session.

As part of his duties in Congress, Congressman Pence has served on the House Foreign Affairs Committee since 2003. He has previously served on the Judiciary, Agriculture and Small Business committees, and as Ranking Member on the Select Committee to Investigate the Voting Irregularities of August 2, 2007. Congressman Pence is a voice for American security and sovereignty on the Foreign Affairs Committee, advocating for strong alliances with our allies, and firm resolve against our adversaries. He has traveled to visit troops serving in Irag every year we've been at war, from 2003 - 2008.

He has also led official government delegations to Afghanistan, Egypt, Turkey, and Pakistan, and has visited with government leaders and military personnel in over a dozen countries. He has condemned the nuclear ambitions of Iran and North Korea, the human rights abuses of Venezuela and China, and unwarranted aggression against our ally Israel. A strong supporter of Israel, Congressman Pence has visited Israel in 2004 and 2008, and has authored amendments to protect Israel's right to build a security fence in disputed territories as well as to cut off American funding of organizations supporting Palestinian terrorist organizations.

Congressman Pence served as Chairman of the House Republican Study Committee during the 109th Congress (2005-2006). The Republican Study Committee is the largest caucus in the House of Representatives; membership grew to 110 House Republicans under his leadership, and has been the leading voice for advancing conservative social and economic issues in Congress since the mid-1980s.

Congressman Pence has led efforts to pass child protection legislation by authoring the Child Pornography Prevention Act, which was incorporated into the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safey Act, which was signed into law by President Bush in 2006.

He is also leading efforts to pass two bipartisan measures to advance the principles of freedom of the press and American politics: the Broadcaster Freedom Act, which would prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from reinstating the so-called Fairness Doctrine and the Free Flow of Information Act, which would protect the public's right to know by providing a qualified privilege for journalists' sources. Congressman Pence also introduced the Title X Abortion Provider Prohibition Act. This bill would prohibit any federal funds from being awarded to family planning organizations that provide abortions.